

Central Intelligence Agency



Washington, D.C. 20505

30 November 2010

Mr. Trevor Griffey  
946 Broadway Avenue E  
Apartment 3  
Seattle, WA 98102

Reference: F-2011-00366

Dear Mr. Griffey:

This is a final response to your 2 November 2010 Freedom of Information Act request, received in the office of the Information and Privacy Coordinator on 23 November 2010, "for all Central Intelligence Agency (CIA) documents relating to its conduct of Project MERRIMAC and Project RESISTANCE on subjects in Washington state during the 1960s and 1970s." We have assigned your request the reference number above. Please use this number when corresponding so that we can identify it easily.

As you may be aware, the CIA established a group in 1967 to collect, evaluate, and report, primarily from overseas, on the extent of foreign influence on domestic dissidence. This program became known commonly as Operation CHAOS. The focus was not domestic dissidence per se and domestic activities were essentially limited to establishing credentials for individuals to further their foreign intelligence collection activities. The operation decreased substantially by mid-1972 and was terminated in March of 1974.

The records of this operation, including the indexes, were destroyed in 1990 pursuant to a recommendation of the Commission on CIA Activities within the United States (commonly known as the Rockefeller Commission), the conclusion of certain litigation, and with the approval of the Archivist of the United States on 17 March 1978. With the exception of a few records contained in our database of "previously released records" and any records which might relate to specific foreign intelligence or counter-intelligence matters, no CHAOS records or indexes survived.

Enclosed are listings of documents available on the topics of "Project Resistance," "CHAOS," "MHCHAOS," and "MERRIMACK." If you wish to order from the enclosed listings, please mark the desired documents, bearing in mind that there may be duplicates, and return the listings to us. We will be pleased to forward whatever documents you wish at a cost of ten cents per page, less the first 100 pages to which you are entitled free. Because the page counts on the enclosed printouts are not always accurate, please do not send payment in advance. We will bill you at the time we provide you with the documents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan Viscuso". The signature is fluid and cursive, starting with a large loop and ending with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke.

Susan Viscuso  
Acting Information and Privacy Coordinator

Enclosures